

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling the admission of connections in a wireless communication system between a base station and associated customer premise equipments (CPEs), including a requesting CPE, where the modulation scheme [PHY mode] of the uplinks and downlinks can be varied [vary] over time, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a new connection from a requesting CPE;

summing the hard bandwidth commitments between a base station and associated CPEs, including the new connection and existing connections, based on a planned modulation scheme [PHY mode] for each connection;

determining an air link line rate between the base station and the associated CPEs;

if the air link line rate exceeds the hard bandwidth commitments, accepting the new connection and determining a second hard bandwidth [commitments] commitment for the existing connections between the base station and the associated CPEs based on a current modulation scheme [PHY mode] for each connection where the current modulation scheme for at least one of the connections is different than the planned modulation scheme for that connection, else denying the new connection;

if the air link line rate exceeds the second hard bandwidth commitments, allocating air link resources to the new connection; else determining whether additional air link resources are available; and

if additional air link resources are available, allocating the air link resources to the new connection; else suspending at least one of the existing connections between the base station and the associated CPEs.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the additional air link resources include available bandwidth in an uplink subframe and available bandwidth in a downlink subframe.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein suspending the at least one of the existing connections includes suspending a connection between the base station and the requesting CPE.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the hard bandwidth commitments are summed with reference to the modulation scheme [PHY mode] used to determine the air link rate.

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5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein suspending the at least one of the existing connections includes suspending connections that are using a more robust modulation scheme [PHY mode] than the planned modulation scheme [PHY mode].

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein suspending the at least one of the existing connections includes randomly suspending connections between the base station and the associated CPEs.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 [6], wherein [the base station and the associated CPEs are located in a sector] summing the hard bandwidth commitments between a base station and associated CPEs, including the new connection and existing connections, is based on a planned modulation scheme and a forward error correction scheme for each connection.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein suspending the at least one of the existing connections includes suspending connections between the base station and the associated CPEs in a round-robin fashion.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
assigning a precedence priority value to each of the existing connections; and
suspending the at least one of the existing connections based on the assigned precedence priority value.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein suspending the at least one of the existing connections is performed in a round-robin fashion.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 [9], wherein [suspending the at least one of the existing connections is performed in a random fashion] accepting the new connection and determining a second hard bandwidth commitments for the existing connections between the base station and the associated CPEs based on a current modulation scheme and forward error correction scheme for each connection.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
selecting a more robust modulation scheme [PHY mode] for at least one of the existing connections as a new current modulation scheme [PHY mode];
determining a third hard bandwidth commitments between the base station and the associated CPEs based on the new current modulation scheme [PHY mode];

if the air link line rate no longer exceeds the third hard bandwidth commitments, suspending another of the existing connections between the base station and the associated CPEs.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

selecting a less robust modulation scheme [PHY mode] for at least one of the existing connections as a new current modulation scheme [PHY mode];

determining a third hard bandwidth commitments between the base station and the associated CPEs based on the new current modulation scheme [PHY mode];

if the air link line rate exceeds the third hard bandwidth commitments, unsuspending the at least one of the existing connections that was suspended between the base station and the associated CPEs.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the hard bandwidth commitments include constant bit rate (CBR) connections.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the hard bandwidth commitments include a minimum cell rate (MCR) portion of a guaranteed frame rate (GFR) connection.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the hard bandwidth commitments include some function of sustainable cell rate (SCR) for variable bit rate (VBR) and variable bit rate real-time (VBR-rt) connections.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the hard bandwidth commitments include measured bandwidth requirements for connections to provide a quality of service.

18-47 (Previously Canceled)

48. (Original) A communication system that is configured to control the admission of new connections and the suspension of existing connections between a base station and customer premise equipments (CPEs), wherein the base station and the CPEs are each configured to increase or decrease the robustness of their transmission modulation technique [by adapting channel characteristics, for example, their PHY mode], the system comprising:

a first CPE having a first modem configured to modulate data in a communication link using a first current modulation scheme [PHY mode] and a first initial modulation scheme different from the first current modulation scheme [PHY mode];

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a second CPE having a second modem configured to modulate data in a communication link using a second current modulation scheme [PHY mode] and a second ~~planned~~ initial modulation scheme [PHY mode];

a base station having a third modem configured to transmit and receive data to and from the first and second CPEs; and

a call admission control (CAC) module configured to determine whether to allow a new connection between the first CPE and the base station or between the second CPE and the base station based on a comparison of a total air link line rate between the first and second CPEs and the base station, wherein the total air link line rate is based on a reference modulation scheme [PHY mode], with a bandwidth commitment value between the base station and the first and second CPEs.

49. (Original) The system of Claim 48, wherein the CAC module is located at the first CPE.

50. (Original) The system of Claim 48, wherein the CAC module is located at the base station.

51. (Original) The system of Claim 48, wherein the third modem comprises:
a transmitter module configured to convert digital data to a modulated analog signal; and
a receiver module configured to demodulate an analog modulated signal to digital form.

52. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 51, wherein the third modem further comprises:

a Receive Signal Quality (RSQ) module coupled with the receiver module and configured to monitor signal quality of existing connections between the first CPE and the base station, and the second CPE and the base station; and

a control module interfaced with the RSQ module and the transmitter module, and configured to select the first current modulation scheme [PHY mode] for the first CPE based on the signal quality monitored by the RSQ module, and configured to select the second current modulation scheme [PHY mode] for the second CPE based on the signal quality monitored by the RSQ module.

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53. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 52, wherein the third modem further comprises a precedence module interfaced with the control module and configured to suspend or allow the existing connections and the new connection based on comparing the total air link line rate with a second bandwidth commitment value determined from the first current modulation scheme [PHY mode] and the second current modulation scheme [PHY mode].

54. (Original) The system of Claim 53, wherein the control module is configured to compare a bit per symbol rate for the existing connections to the new connection in determining the second bandwidth commitment value.

55. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 54, wherein the comparison is performed by normalizing the existing connections with the reference modulation scheme [PHY mode] used to calculate the total air link line rate.

56. (Original) The system of Claim 54, wherein the precedence module randomly selects either the existing connections or the new connection to suspend if the second bandwidth commitment value exceeds the total air link line rate.

57. (Original) The system of Claim 54, wherein the precedence module selects either the existing connections or the new connection to suspend in a round-robin fashion if the second bandwidth commitment value exceeds the total air link line rate.

58. (Original) The system of Claim 54, wherein each of the existing connections and the new connection are each assigned a priority value which is used in determining whether to suspend or allow the existing connections and the new connection.

59. (Original) The system of Claim 58, wherein the priority value assigned to the existing connections is different than the priority value assigned to the new connection.

60. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 58, wherein the first current modulation scheme [PHY mode] is associated with [channel characteristics which include a current modulation technique and] a current forward error correction scheme.

61. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 58, wherein the first planned modulation scheme [PHY mode] is associated with [channel characteristics which include a planned modulation technique and] a planned forward error correction scheme.

62. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 61, wherein the first planned modulation scheme [PHY mode] and the second planned modulation scheme [PHY mode] are both determined by radio frequency planning in a sector.

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63. (Original) The system of Claim 58, wherein the precedence module is configured to select a connection from the existing connections and the new connection which has the lowest priority value to suspend.

64. (Original) The system of Claim 58, wherein the precedence module is configured to randomly select a connection to suspend from the existing connections and the new connection if the existing connections and the new connection have the same priority value.

65. (Original) The system of Claim 58, wherein the precedence module is configured to select a connection to suspend from the existing connections and the new connection in a round-robin fashion if the existing connections and the new connection have the same priority value.

66. (Currently Amended) A method of performing call admission control in a communication system that supports subscriber level adaptive PHY modes, the system including a base station and at least one customer premise equipment (CPE), the method comprising:

determining selected modulation schemes [PHY modes] for the CPEs based on their planned modulation techniques and quality of service requirements;

determining a reference line rate for the communication system when using a reference modulation scheme [PHY mode];

determining multiplicative rates for normalizing CPEs selected modulation schemes [PHY modes] to the reference modulation scheme [PHY mode];

comparing the reference line rate to bandwidth requirements using the normalized selected modulation schemes [PHY modes]; and

allowing or denying a new connection between the base station and the CPEs based on the comparison.

67. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 66, further comprising:

determining a current modulation scheme [PHY mode] for the CPEs based on their current modulation techniques and quality of service requirements;

determining multiplicative rates for normalizing CPEs current modulation schemes [PHY modes] to the reference modulation scheme [PHY mode];

comparing the reference line rate to the bandwidth requirements using the normalized current modulation scheme [PHY modes]; and

selecting a connection between the base station and the CPEs to suspend based on the comparison.

68. (Original) The method of Claim 67, further comprising:

assigning a precedence level to each connection between the base station and the CPEs, wherein the precedence level is utilized to select the connection between the base station and the CPEs to suspend.

69. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 68, wherein the reference modulation scheme [PHY mode] is a least robust modulation technique which is combined with a minimum forward error correction bits.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 68, wherein the reference modulation scheme [PHY mode] is a most robust modulation technique which is combined with a maximum forward error correction bits.

71. (Original) The method of Claim 68, wherein the bandwidth requirements includes hard bandwidth commitments.

72. (Currently Amended) A system for performing call admission control in a communication system that supports subscriber level adaptive PHY modes, the system comprising:

terminals with associated current and initial forward error correction schemes [PHY modes], wherein each terminal [terminals modulates] transmits [connections] using the current forward error correction schemes [PHY mode] which is different from the initial forward error correction scheme for at least one terminal, and wherein the initial forward error correction scheme [PHY mode] is selected for each terminal based on system level characteristics;

a base station configured to transmit and receive data to and from the terminals via the connections; and

a call admission control module configured to determine whether to allow a new connection between the terminals and the base station by comparing an air link line rate with a total hard bandwidth commitment between the terminals and the base station.

73. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 72, wherein the air link line rate is a total of all available bandwidth between the terminals and the base station assuming each terminal transmits using a reference forward error correction scheme [PHY mode].

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74. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 72, wherein the total hard bandwidth commitment is the total of all committed bandwidth between the terminals and the base station assuming each connection is transmitted [modulated] using each terminal's initial forward error correction scheme [PHY mode].

75. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 74, wherein the total hard bandwidth commitment includes normalizing each terminal's bandwidth using each terminal's initial forward error correction scheme [PHY mode].

76. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 74, further comprising a precedence module configured to select a connection to suspend based on comparing a second total hard bandwidth commitment, wherein the second total hard bandwidth commitment is based on a current forward error correction scheme [PHY mode] for each of the terminals.

77. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 76, wherein the second total hard bandwidth commitment is a total of all requested bandwidth between the terminals and the base station assuming each connection is [modulated] using each terminal's current forward error correction scheme [PHY mode].

78. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 77, wherein the total of all requested bandwidth includes normalizing each terminal's bandwidth using each terminal's current forward error correction scheme [PHY mode].

Claims 79-103 (Previously Canceled)